

8-9968

Dear Mr. Vice President:

I have the honor to transmit a draft of proposed legislation relating to the programs authorized by the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended.

These proposals are substantially the same as proposals separately submitted by the Agency and the Department of State in the last session of the Congress, which were subsequently consolidated into one Bill introduced by Senator Smith of New Jersey and Senator Harrell as S. 3638. S. 3638 was passed by the Senate but not by the House. The draft Bill is, therefore, a consolidated Bill which includes proposals of the Department of State as well as of the Agency.

The provisions of the Bill which relate to this Agency are for the most part of a technical and clarifying nature and are designed to simplify and improve the operation of the information program. However, the most important proposal from the Agency's viewpoint authorizes the establishment of a career corps of U. S. Information Officers for overseas service with the Agency. This authority is most urgently needed by this Agency to improve its overseas service.

A detailed explanation of the provisions of the proposed Bill is attached, together with estimates of increased costs.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the presentation of this draft Bill to the Congress for its consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Arthur Larson  
Director

Attachments.

The Honorable  
The Vice President  
United States Senate

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